



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

AUGUST 22, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO MARIJUANA, FIREARM CHARGES FOLLOWING UNDERCOVER BUY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to distributing marijuana and illegally brandishing a firearm.

Randy W. Collier, 19, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan this morning to charges contained in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 19, 2005, in Kansas City.

By pleading guilty, **Collier** admitted that he distributed less than 50 kilograms of marijuana on March 21, 2005, in Jackson County, Mo. **Collier** also admitted that he illegally brandished a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime. **Collier** brandished a Hi-Point 9 mm Luger semi-automatic pistol on March 21, 2005.

Collier was arrested following an encounter with an undercover law enforcement officer on March 21, 2005. At the time of the initial encounter, **Collier** admitted that he met with the undercover officer to sell him a quantity of marijuana. The sale was set up to take place at a residence located on E. 58th St., in Kansas City. At this location, **Collier** approached the officer's vehicle with the firearm in his right hand. **Collier** then got inside the officer's vehicle and told him "his boys" said he was an undercover officer. The officer denied the accusation and **Collier** then told the officer that if he were undercover that he was going to "pop" him, Graves said. After their conversation, **Collier** sold the officer 18 grams of marijuana for \$50.

Collier was later arrested on March 22, 2005. At the time of the arrest, law enforcement officers conducted a search of **Collier's** residence and discovered the Hi-Point 9 mm Luger semi-automatic pistol and 120 grams of marijuana, Graves said.

Collier also admitted that he sold marijuana to the undercover officer on two other

occasions, Graves said.

Under federal statutes, Graves explained, **Collier** may be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of seven years in federal prison without parole, up to life in prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Brent Powell. The case was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow